**Adrenalin Devon Junior and Minor League Annual General Meeting held on 10th June 2019 at The Jan Cutting Centre**

**Apologies**. Marine Academy Juniors and Steve Avery

**Attendance** All other clubs and League Executive Officers in attendance as per signing in form.

**Chairman’s opening remarks (attached)**

Annual General Meeting 2018/2019

Welcome to the AGM this is the 115th year of our League.

We still have 30 members involved with us now who were involved in our Centenary Year Celebrations in various positions in club, refereeing and/or on the Executive Committee. Some coaches/managers have been through all the age ranges and then reverted back with a young team and do the same again. Some are doing this for the third time. That really is commitment and we still have members with us now who are still with the league over 30 years ago.

Thank you as club representatives for all that you do for your clubs and helping our league prosper, so many children benefit from the hours that you and your committees give to them. I like to think that the League Executive Committee members have a good working relationship with you and your clubs and that it is reciprocated. There have been a few occasions this season that we have not agreed about certain things but as chairman I stand by those decisions for what I consider to be in the best interest of everyone in the league.

I am grateful to Adrenalin for their support and hope that your players take advantage of their facilities. It was unfortunate that we could not hold the DRD Festival this season but hope that it will take place next season.

We were saddened by the loss of or our ex chairman and president Tom Miller after his long illness and more recently the very sad news of two of our young players, Charlie Seale from Manstow FC and Simon Gerry from Railway Beacon who tragically died.

I thank Mark for his Annual Report in which he has mentioned our colleagues for their tremendous work and I would like to endorse those sentiments and say thank you to all the Executive Committee for not only the work that the clubs know about but more importantly the long hours working they know nothing about. Of course Mark is one of those who spend many hours administering for us and we are very grateful to him. Some of you may not have met Steve Avery, who although being away in Scotland for many months, has still managed to continue and keep up to date with the under 18’s which I think has the best behaviour record for a long time.

It is difficult to replace people but I am delighted that Jenny Ore has joined us as our new Minute Secretary. Can I thank those of our committee and your club members who are leaving their roles now and wish them good luck with their other involvements.

Congratulations to all your club cup winners and finalists, your league winners and runner ups and especially to the Fair Play Winners. Your clubs have competed well again in the County Cups Competition and my congratulations go to them as well.

This Management Committee implemented some rule changes at last year’s AGM and they proved very successful, after hours of Executive member’s deliberation and checking the Standard Code of Youth Rules (SCORY) for the coming season I hope that nothing has been missed for the coming season and that the new proposed rules are acceptable and implemented.

1. **To receive the minutes of the preceding AGM**

These were proposed and accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Alan Holder of Marine Academy Kings and seconded by Peter Frankland of Morley Rangers. There were no matters arising.

1. **To Receive the Annual Report**

Copy of report that was sent to all Clubs prior to the meeting is copied below and there were no questions or amendments requested from the Membership. Mark Rowles was thanked for preparing this report.

**Secretary Report and Annual Report For The Annual General Meeting of the Adrenalin Devon Junior and Minor League**

Season 2019 – 2020 started with a record number of teams entering the League and this has led to over 5000 young people being registered. We welcomed three new Clubs SWIFT, Bere Alston, and Granby Youth. The League also had a new sponsor Adrenalin Leisure Plymouth and my thanks need to go to both Chris French and Bernard Leach for supporting me in securing this three year deal. Adrenalin has been a very good fit for the League and many teams and players have taken advantage of the special deals that Adrenalin have offered the League.

The League initiated new central venue U7 and U8 5 v 5 a side development football in partnership with the Manadon Football Development Centre and Goals Soccer and although it started with only 13 teams the second half of the Development Leagues run from late January to May attracted 16 Under 7 and 16 Under 8 teams. This would not have been possible without the considerable support of Phil Cardew and Justin Coombes from Goals who did all the fixtures and Lewis Coombes and Matt Coates from Argyle in the Community. We have identified ways in which we wish to develop the programme further and are also looking at delivering training courses for the coaches and parents that attend focussing on Respect and how to support player development. Also my thanks in the initiation stage to Chris French for helping to bring the two venues together. Only problem we see next year is enabling all teams who wish to participate to be timetabled.

The Season did not start well in terms of getting Fixtures out to Clubs and despite the ongoing problems with integrating Whole Game System to Full Time this was not acceptable for Clubs wishing to prepare for the New Season. Lessons have been learnt and following a meeting with Devon FA we have agreed some steps to ensure the Fixtures and Sanctioning of the League can be split so that Fixtures are not dependent on everything else being completed. Having said this we are still in Clubs hands to get their Charter Standard Renewals complete and the League is updating progress of this on a weekly basis. The Adrenalin Devon Junior and Minor League is confident that Fixtures will be issues in a timely manner this year.

Many new rules were adopted last year and many have made a positive difference to the organisation of the League. The introduction of a transfer window was a major reason why we lost 50% less teams this Season compared with 2017 – 2018. Referees liked the introduction of the technical area and this has stopped coaches running up and down the touchline. The reduction from 21 day to 28 day notice of cancellation was also well received by Clubs as was the opportunity within a tight window to appeal against the Division they were placed in at the beginning of the Season.

Rules are really important and despite the League wishing to bring in a rule that would stop teams from using 21 day notice of cancellation for Cup Finals, and this being mentioned to Managers at the Managers meetings that were established at the beginning of the year, it was not voted on at the last AGM and therefore could not be implemented. This caused two games to be cancelled that were unable to be arranged. This Season a lot more time has been spent by the Executive to ensure all proposed rule changes are included for voting on at the AGM on the 10th June 2019.

Whilst talking about Cup Finals I must express the League’s appreciation to Saltash United, Torpoint Athletic, Elburton Villa and Tavistock FC for allowing us to host all our Cup Finals at their venues. All the Clubs ensured the facilities were in an excellent condition and this was really appreciated by the players, officials and spectators alike. My thanks to Brian Rimes who managed to ensure that every game including the mini soccer finals had a qualified official which was not the case in the previous Season. This clearly is appreciated by all Clubs in the Final. The Finals are whole day events and I would like to thank all the Committee who gave up their time to man the gates and make the days run smoothly. Having been at every Cup Final with Des O Leary the amount of work he does both before and after the games is phenomenal and without his work the occasions would not be as professionally run. Also special thanks to Steve Conteh for collating the programmes and every other Committee member for their efforts. A special mention to Julie Metters who is not an Executive Officer but manned a gate for three days solid and Larry Reed for doing many jobs at all the 11 a side finals.

As already mentioned, the Season in terms of Fixtures did not start well and this was unfair on our Fixture Secretaries and therefore for much of the start of the Season they were playing catch up. Having said this it has been accepted by all that fixtures need to be set more in advance BUT having covered Anita whilst she was aware became more fully aware of the complexities of sorting out fixtures and the number of different things such as school forms, 21 day cancellations, FA competitions, 11 plus exams that mean fixtures often get cancelled once set. Having said all this I know the League is determined to get fixtures out in advance for the forthcoming Season. My sincere thanks to Anita Beale, Barry Metters and Steve Avery for their continued efforts that as I say often is not fully appreciated. I would also like to record my thanks to Shane Connelly who is stepping down from his role as Mini Soccer Co – ordinator for the work he has done to promote Under 9 and Under 10 football within the League.

Last Season our Under 18 League lost many teams and one League finished with just 5 teams. This Season the Leagues have run smoothly with teams completing their fixtures. Nearly every game had a referee and I received only two formal complaints about an incident at a game which for this age range is extremely encouraging. Unfortunately, I can not say the same for the other end of the age spectrum as over 60% of Respect and Safeguarding issues were recorded at games from Under 12 age downwards. This is really worrying when it is development football and as there are no referees it is often very difficult to deal with issues as we have no independent witnesses at games. Having said this we need to recognise that the vast number of games still get played in the right spirit.

Despite the additional games needing covering this year it is pleasing to report that more games had referees appointed than the previous Season. The League decision to re imburse new referees 50% of their course costs when they have completed at least fifteen games in the League has made a difference. However, the main reason is down to the relationship that Brian has with the referees and as a result many do two games every week. In addition, we have loyalty to the League with many referees having officiated for the League for over 15 year. Brian has also this year supported Anita and myself with other work and he is a really important part of our Executive Committee. At this time I should also note the increasing role Ian Rothwell is playing in supporting Brian and increasingly being involved in Disciplinary Panels.

The League is in a sound financial state and this is down to the prudent way that the League looks after its finances and we are very fortunate to have Des O Leary as our Treasurer. I am aware some feel that the League has too much money in reserves however two things need to be noted. Sound business suggests an organisation should have at least six months reserves and secondly the League is currently actively looking at developing a business plan that includes a proposal to develop a base that would also have football pitches attached. More information will be provided early next year. Des does so much more for the League including the Presentation Evening and this needs to be acknowledged as it is a huge amount of work

Being a Club volunteer is football is becoming far more administratively focussed and time consuming and therefore finding volunteers whether to join the League Executive or becoming a Club Secretary, Treasurer, Chair or Welfare Officer is becoming far harder. The League has many Club volunteers that have undertaken over 15 years service and their role should not be under estimated in the success of the League. In terms of the League it is vital that we start succession planning and new blood is nurtured and encouraged to get involved.

I have been stressing on the Executive that there is a need to adapt and develop the way we operate the League. Social media scrutinises every decision made and creates far more work. E mails and texts mean that even on some basic issues you can communicate over fifteen times. As mentioned above next year the League is to develop a three year business plan that will be written with the support of Clubs and stakeholders and will hopefully provide a clear direction and focus for the future and will enable us to adapt to the ever changing requirements being placed on football.

Girls Football continues to expand and the standard continues to improve. Pleasing to note the increased number of female coaches and referees that are contributing to the Girls game within the Adrenalin Devon Junior and Minor League. The League needs to support the FA in creating more exit routes for players to move from junior to adult football. Barry Metters is passionate about developing Girls Football and his efforts have rightly enabled Girls Football to become an integral part of the League and I thank him for that.

As mentioned earlier the League has had to deal with some very complex safeguarding issues this year and Dave Keast our Welfare Officer, whose expertise in this area is second to none has really assisted the League to liaise with the relevant authorities including the FA to support young people. It is important to note that we are the largest youth organisations in the City and one of the largest in the South West and with 5000 players registered and playing each week we will naturally have to support young people in need. Whilst talking about Dave, he is another Executive Officer that does many things unnoticed and quietly and this should be commended. From a personal perspective his wisdom and calmness is extremely appreciated. In terms of a supporting voice I have to acknowledge the role of our President Bernard Leach for his counsel and deep knowledge of rules and procedures.

Having mentioned registrations I need to thank our two registration Secretaries Steve Conteh and Lewis Bell for ensuring the registration process is as smooth as possible. I am aware when speaking to Club Secretaries and Managers their appreciation for the work undertaken and Steve Conteh has also become an expert on the WGS system and Full Time system and as a result fields many queries on these issues in a very professional and honest manner.

I make no apologies for thanking the Executive for their efforts as the number of hours that they volunteer every week is quite remarkable and without their dedication the League could not function. Our Executive is far from perfect and we need to strive to improve each year and without doubt mistakes have been made but everyone is committed to ensuring young people are able to play football. As long as we learn from our mistakes then the League will always progress.

Having thanked people within the League I should acknowledge the support of both Devon and Cornwall FA and also a mention to Plymouth City Council who have maintained the council pitches really well this year. I have had far fewer complaints and when I do receive they action quickly.

It remains an honour to serve in the role of General Secretary of the League and to be able to give back to a League that has given so much pleasure to young people since its inception. I hope that I have assisted Clubs and helped them to enjoy the beautiful game. My final thought is a plea to everyone in our League to accept that at times there will be differences of opinion and decisions made that are unpopular or people believe are wrong. All I ask and passionately believe in is that when a decision has been made whether you agree or not it does not then impact on future relationships with fellow managers, secretaries or executive officers

1. **Election of Clubs to fill vacancies including New Clubs wishing to join the League.** Existing Clubs had given notice of age groups of intended teams.

New Clubs-FC Sumo U18, Whitleigh Wolves U11, Liskeard U11 & U13 ( to become St Cleer & Liskeard), Hunter District U10 Rangers, U10, U11 & U12. These were unanimously accepted into the League.

1. **The Constitution of the Competition for the ensuring Season**

This was accepted

1. **Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee Members**

Thefollowing existing members wishing to stand for next season

Bernard Leach President

Dave Keast Chairman & Youth League Welfare Officer

Steve Avery Vice Chairman & U18 Mixed League Registrations, Fixtures, Results and Referee Appointment Secretary

Mark Rowles General Secretary

Jennifer Oke Minute Secretary

Des O’Leary Treasurer

Steve Conteh Registration Secretary (Youth U11 –U16 Mixed)

Lewis Bell Registration Secretary (Mini Soccer & Girls)

Anita Beale Fixture Secretary (U11 –U16 Mixed)

Brian Rimes Referee’s Appointment Secretary (U11-U16 & Girls)

Barry Metters Fixture Secretary ((U10 – U18 Girls)

Larry Reed Co-opted Member

Kevin Roberts Co-opted Member

The above were voted in en bloc and the chairman thanked everyone for their support

Vacancies

Paul Conteh Mini Soccer Co-ordinator

Mark Gower Assistant Secretary

Ryan Saunders Social Media & Website Officer

1. **Alteration of Rules (Copy attached)**

All the propose rule alterations had been sent to the clubs for their discussion with their members.

The Chairman asked if there were any rules that members wished to discuss before the rules would be voted upon. Kevin Roberts of Saltash Youth challenged the proposed 7 substitute rule below.

For under 17’s and Under 18s a Club may use up to 7 substitute players of whom not more than 7 may be used

For Under 11s to Under 16s a Club may use up to 7 substitute players of whom not more than 7 may be used.

Following a discussion, a vote was held and this proposed rule change was defeated.

The Chairman then asked the Management Committee if all other rule changes and amendments and clarifications could be voted on bloc and this was agreed and all the rule changes below were unanimously agreed by the Management Committee

**New Rules unanimously agreed and listed below**

If a Club does not include in their Constitution and / or information signed by parents or carers the Club rules re returning kit and process for paying outstanding fees owed by a player then the Adrenalin Devon Junior Minor League will be unable to support Clubs to reclaim money of kit outstanding.

If advice is sought from an Executive Officer but the advice provided is incorrect and a team appeals against the advice provided then the outcome of the appeal will be based on what is written in the Adrenalin Devon Junior and Minor League Handbook and or the Devon FA Handbook.

Fixtures:     To be released in a maximum of 2 blocks.   (Sept - Dec)   (Jan - May).

Fixtures:    New fixtures to be released with a MINIMUM of 7 days notice.

**Rule 2G Paragraph 2 Page 84**

Add at end of second paragraph except for the Under 18 Division

**Rule 4(b)(i) Page 84**

**Add at end of sentence. For 7 v 7 to a maximum of 10 players (£ 10), 9v9 to a maximum of 12 players (£ 12) and for 11 a side football to a maximum of 15 players (£ 15 )**

**Rule 4 ( C ) Page 85**

Delete – and deposit if required

**Rule 5 (i) Page 85**

Delete role of Sponsorship Liaison Officer and add Website and Social Media Officer

**Rule 13A Page 89**

Change of DateDelete August and Insert September

**Rule 18 A (i) Page 91**

Addition to rule -A Player who, being in all other respects eligible has registered through WGS by the prescribed set day/times below

(ii) Submitted to the league via WGS by Friday 13.00 for Saturday, Saturday 13.00 for Sunday, Monday 13.00 for Tuesday, Tuesday 13.00 for Wednesday, Wednesday 13.00 for Thursday and Thursday 13.00 for a Friday match for single registrations.

(iii) An eligible player is one who is selectable and featured in Match Day squad on Full Time Fixture, subject to Cup Tied players and FA Suspensions.

**Amendment to Rule 18A(i) Page 91**

Delete sentence - Any registration form that is sent by either of the means set out in Rules 18A (i) (a) or (b)that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed

For Clubs registering Players Under Rule 18 (A) (i) (a) Delete or (b) registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering Players via WGS  (under Rule 18 (A) (i) (c) Clubs must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**Addition to Rule 18A(i) (iii) Page 91**

add to sentence

as defined below

1. Players that have not made an appearance in 5 consecutive matches.
2. Players whom have gone to Professional Academies.
3. On the discretion of the League Management Emergency Transfer Committee.
4. Internal transfers can only be completed in periods within the Transfer Window, none will be permitted outside of these only on the discretion of the League Management Emergency Transfer Committee.

**Addition to Rule 18A(i) (vii) Page 91**

Internal Transfers can only be completed in periods within the Transfer Window, none will be permitted outside of these only on the discretion of the League Executive Emergency Transfer Committee

**Deletion of Rule 18 (A) (ii) Page 91**

Registration forms may also be submitted to the Registrations Secretary by electronic e mail or facsimile machine prior to the player playing in a competition match. The original document must be forwarded by post to the appropriate officer of the competition within three days of the competitive match

**Correction of Rule 18 (l)(i) Page 93**

**Delete Management Committee and replace with League Executive Emergency Transfer Committee**

**Correction of Rule 18(l)(ii) Page 93**

**Delete 2018-2019 and replace with this current Season**

**Rule (I) (i)**

**Add at start of sentence Under 12 – Under 18 and delete 1st June** and insert **1st July**

Add new sentence **– For mini soccer the transfer deadline will be between the 1st July to the 30th September and the 8th December to the 1st February of the playing Season except by Special Permission of the League Executive Emergency Transfer Committee**

**Addition to Rule 18(l) Page 93**

**(iii) Transfers must be completed prior to the day of the match for the player to be eligible to play i.e Thursday 23.59pm for Saturday, Friday 23.59pm for Sunday, Saturday 23.59pm for Monday and thereafter throughout the week**

**Deletion of Rule 18 (i) Page 93**

**A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after the Transfer Window except by special permission of the League Management Executive Committee.**

**Addition to Rule 20 (A) (i)**

**Add before start of sentence – Mini soccer, 9 v 9 and**

**Rule 20 (A) add to paragraph 9 line 3**

Insert 7 and also add at end of sentence KO times will be at the discretion of the Fixture Secretaries with the earliest start time being set for 9.30am

**Rule 20 (G) (b) 1 and Rule 20 (G) (b) 2 Page 96**

Delete and the match to be re-arranged and add the points to be awarded to the opposition

**Rule 20 (G) (b) 3 Page 96**

Add sentence**.** If the team has played less than 75% of their fixtures their record will be deleted from the Division. If less than 25% of their remaining games are left to play the opposing teams will be awarded the points

**Rule 20 G (c) Page 97 paragraph 5**

Insert in bracket 5

**Rational** – states minimum minutes before a game for referee to be informed of substitutes as not shown in the handbook this year

**Rule 20 (D) Page 97 – rule re write**

The half time interval shall be a minimum of 5 minutes duration but should not exceed a maximum of 15 minutes duration. In all cases the referee decision about length of half time is final and in circumstances deemed appropriate by the referee the half time duration can be altered at his / her discretion

**Rule 21 ( A ) Page 98**

**Delete – The Club must report the result of each competition ( Fixture) via the Full Time within 48 hours in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team players ( IN BLOCK LETTERS ) and also the referee markings required by Rule 23, or any other information required by the competition. Failure to do so will incur a fine in line with the Fines tariff.**

Replace with **-** A Club must report the result of each competition (Fixture) via the Full Time System fully completed with The FA/League Marks and Player Statistics and with opponents MOM all in full by Monday Night 23.59 for Saturday Matches, Tuesday Night 23.59 for Sunday Matches and by Friday 23.59 for all Midweek Matches. This is also to include Referees Markings required by Rule 23, or any other information required by the Competition.

**Rule 21 (A) Page 98 (i)**

Delete – If Rule 21 (A) is not applied the team is subject to suspension from playing in the Competition and Rule 6Hi will be applied until the team details have been placed on WGS

Add If Rule 21 (A) is not applied the team is subject to an automatic suspension from the Date of Rule Breach and will incur a fine, points deduction, under Rule 6H

**Rule 21 (A) (ii) Page 98**

Insert word Sporting before the word mark

**Rational -** Clarifies what the mark is being awarded for

**Page 98 Rule (C)**

Delete – The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Club, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result is a fine according to the Fines Tariff

Replace with One copy of the Match Day paper team sheet must be given to the referee and one copy to the opposition manager prior to the commencement of the game. These sheets need to be retained by the team for the Season as random spot checks will take place during the Season by League Executive Officers

**Page 98 Rule D**

**Delete last sentence The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collate and publish results for trophy events.**

**Replace with – The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect results for trophy events BUT NOT to publish them**

**Rule 23 (E)**

Delete – of per / or inclusive of travel expenses and Add – refer to Referees Fees and Travel Supplement on Page ( to be inserted when handbook is to be printed )

**Rules and Knock Out Competitions**

**Rule B Page 103**

**Delete The Competitions will be played on the last Saturday of the months September, October, February, March April with the Finals taking place in May**

Insert – The initial rounds of the Under 11 – Under 16 Cup Competitions will be played on the Saturdays of the 21st September, 12th October 2019 and 2nd November. Semi final ties will be scheduled from March 2020 Under 11 and mini soccer cup and plate fixtures to be scheduled from the 1st week of February 2020.

Insert as well- No 21 day notice of cancellations will be allowed for any Cup Finals scheduled by the League and the exact dates of these fixtures ( late April and May ) will be issued to Clubs by not later than the August LMC meeting

**Add Rule F (iv) that was omitted from 2018 – 2019 handbook Page 104**

A player must have played in two or more matches for their current team in the current Season to be eligible to play in the Semi Final of Final of the Divisional Cup.

1. **Fix the date of the commencement of the playing season**

The Under 18 Mixed would commence on Sunday 1st September, the Under 11-16 Mixed & Girls would commence on Saturday 7th September and the Mini Soccer on Saturday 14th September

1. **Fix the date for the end of the Season**

The end date would be the 31st May. The Mini Soccer should finish in April but could continue into May

1. **AOB**

The U11-16 Mixed Fixture Secretary advised clubs that there will be evening fixtures at the beginning of the season for U11-U18 teams.

The Treasurer of the League reminded Clubs that the annual accounts as per the rule change last year, and due to the changing of the accounting year, would be presented to Clubs in September and to be adopted at the October LMC meeting.

The Secretary was aware of the many changes being proposed / directed from the FA and asked Clubs to note that this was not of the League Executive making and please do not blame the League as they had no control on the proposals being made to registration process.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8 pm